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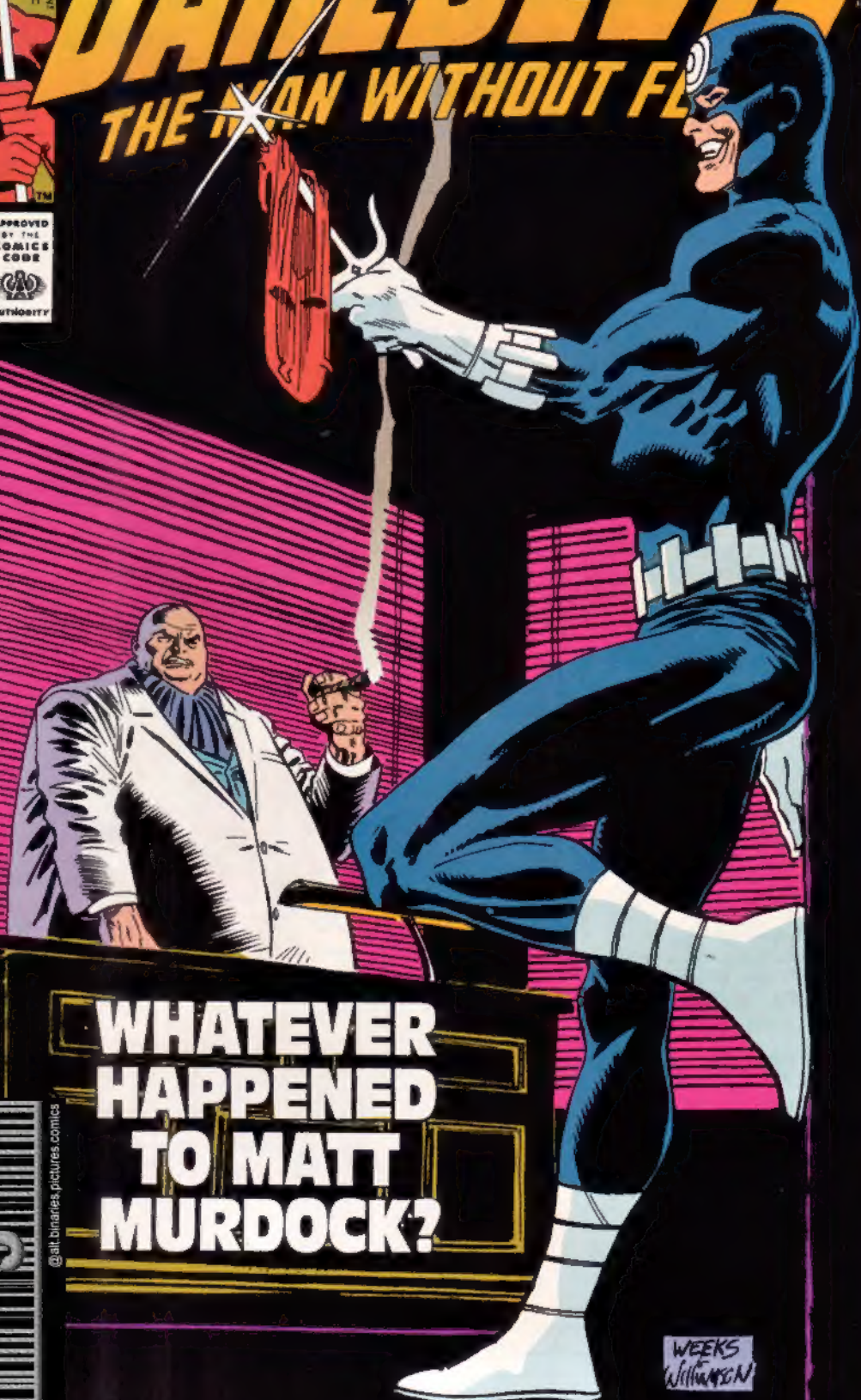


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288
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DAREDEVIL

THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR



**WHATEVER
HAPPENED
TO MATT
MURDOCK?**



@galt.binares.pictures.comics

WEEKS
WILLIAMS

A CHILDHOOD ACCIDENT STOLE HIS SIGHT, BUT, INCREDIBLY, IT ENDOWED YOUNG MATT MURDOCK WITH RADAR VISION AND HEIGHTENED SENSES. ARMED ONLY WITH HIS ATHLETIC PROWESS, BILLY CLUB, AND INDOMITABLE COURAGE, MATT BATTLES INJUSTICE AS A CRIMSON-CLAD GLADIATOR!

Stan
Lee
PRESENTS:

DAREDEVIL, THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!

THE STUDENT

IT'S BACK TO THE
WAY IT WAS MEANT
TO BE...

EVERY UNREQUITED
MOMENT... IS IN MY
ARMS...

EVERY DARK SHIP PASSED,
EVERY UNANSWERED
GLANCE...

IT'S ALL BACK
IN HER EYES...

ALL THE PASSING
POSSIBILITIES...

ELEKTRA.

MATT.

BUT HOW CAN I
SEE HER EYES
IF MINE ARE
BLIND?

SOMETHING'S
WRONG HERE.

ANN
NOGENTI
WRITER

LEE
WEEKS
PENCILS

WILLIAMSON
& WEEKS
INKS (pp. 25-30)

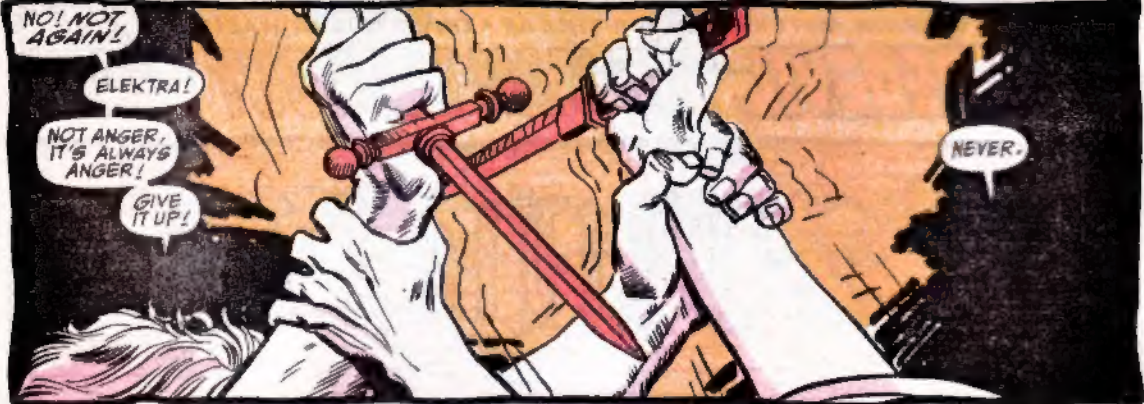
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& YOMTOV
COLORS

MORELLI
& JOYCE
LETTERS

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MAGGIO
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TOM
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PRINCIPAL

DAREDEVIL • Vol. 1, No. 288, January, 1991. (ISSN# 0279-8271) Published by MARVEL COMICS, Terry Stewart, President, Stan Lee, Publisher Michael Hobbs, Group Vice President, Publishing, OFFICE OF PUBLICATION, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. **SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N.Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.** Published monthly. Copyright © 1990 by Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price \$1.00 per copy in the U.S. and \$1.25 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: U.S. \$12.00, Canada \$17.00, and foreign \$24.00. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. DAREDEVIL (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO DAREDEVIL, c/o MARVEL COMICS, 9TH FLOOR, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Printed in the U.S.A.



NO! NOT AGAIN!

ELEKTRA!

NOT ANGER, IT'S ALWAYS ANGER!

GIVE IT UP!

NEVER.



ANGER'S ALL I HAVE!

SHE DID IT AGAIN.

JUST LIKE OLD TIMES.

KICKED ME TO MY DEATH.

OH, DARLING, JUST LIKE OLD TIMES.

AND HERE I THOUGHT YOU FORGOT EVERYTHING.



I NEVER FORGOT.

ELEKTRA—WHY ARE WE STILL FIGHTING?



BECAUSE IT'S EASY.

EASIER THAN... THE OTHER THING.

I KNOW WHAT SHE MEANS. SHE'S RIGHT.

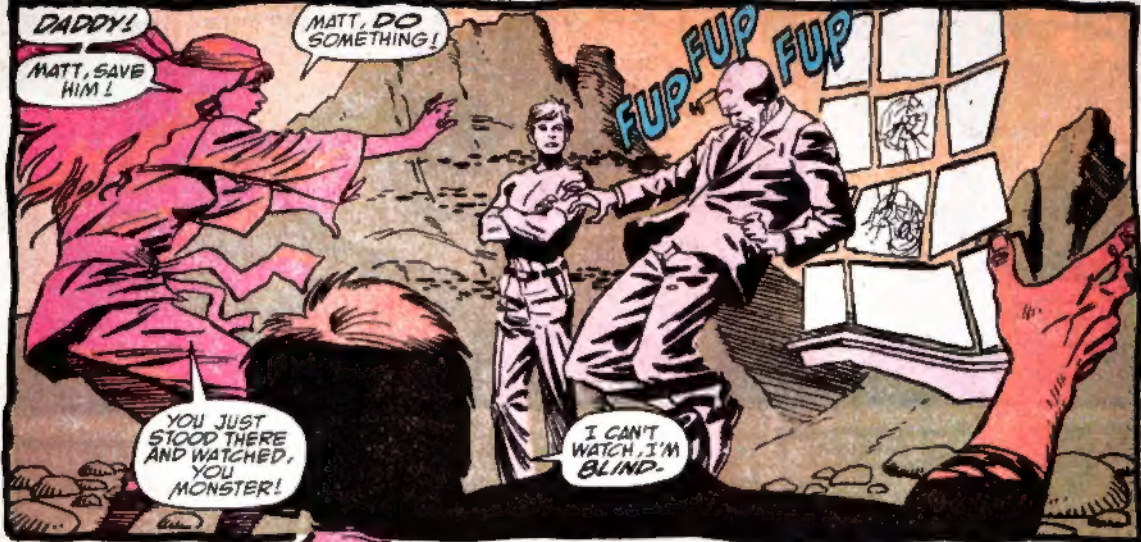
I SEE IT IN HER EYES.

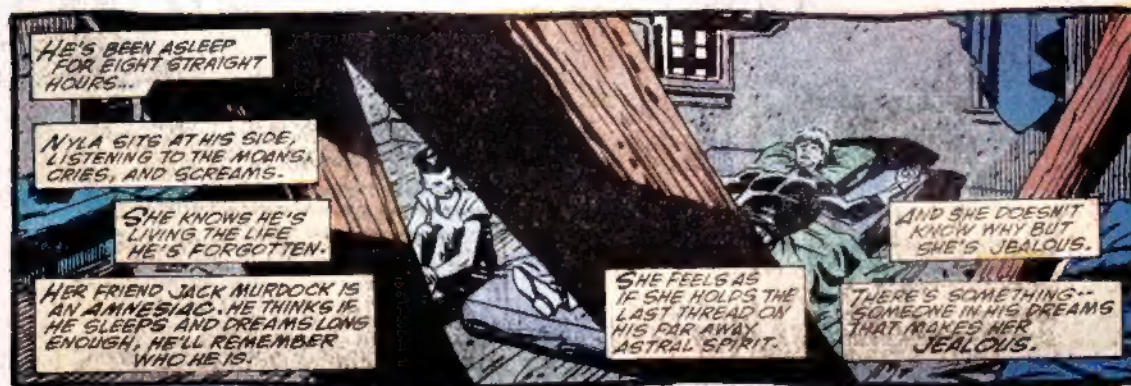
WHICH MEANS... I'M DREAMING.

BLIND BY DAY, SO WHEN I SEE I MUST BE DREAMING.



STILL HURTS.





HIGH IN A MANHATTAN
SKYSCRAPER OWNED
BY THE FISK
CORPORATION...

TIME TO
MOVE.

MY PRO-
TECTION SYS-
TEM EXTENDS
THAT FAR.

I'M GETTING SO
TIRED OF THE DRUG
BUSINESS, WITH ITS
GUNS, BLOOD, AND
BETRAYALS.

WHY CAN'T
DRUGS BE RUN
LIKE ANY OTHER
COMMODITY?

WELL, FOR
NOW, I MOVE
OPERATIONS TO
...LET'S SEE, WE'VE
GOT A SAFE-
HOUSE AT--

50TH
AND
10TH.

BULLS-
EYE.

thuck

AFTER THAT BUSINESS WITH THE RED SKULL,
I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO LIE LOW UNTIL
I CONTACTED YOU.

WELL, KINGPIN,
I WAS WONDER-
ING IF YOU'D
NOTICED SOME
THING STRANGE
HAPPENING
IN THE CITY--

--SOME-
THING WITH
MY
SIGNATURE
ON IT?

YOU
IDIOT.



EVER
THE
IDIOT.

IT BACKFIRED,
BULLSEYE.

YOU WANTED TO MAKE
DAREDEVIL APPEAR TO BE A
THIEF AND RUIN HIS REPUTA-
TION. BUT STEALING FROM
THE RICH AND GIVING TO
THE POOR WAS A STUPID
WAY TO GO ABOUT IT.

JUST THE KIND OF
THING PEOPLE
LOVE.

NO!

IF YOU'RE TRYING
TO INGRATIATE YOURSELF
WITH ME YOU'RE GOING TO
HAVE TO DO BETTER
THAN THAT IDIOT STUNT.

THEY WERE
SUPPOSED TO
HATE HIM!
KILL HIM!
LYNCH HIM!



I'LL
FIX
IT!

SO, BULL-
EYE HAS BEEN
MASQUERADING
AS THE
DAREDEVIL.

BUT WITH A
FAKE DAREDEVIL
COMMITTING
CRIMES AGAINST
HIS BELOVED
MANHATTAN--

--WHY HASN'T
THE REAL
DAREDEVIL
STOPPED
HIM?

AND WHY HAS MATT MURDOCK TAKEN A JOB AS A
FIGHTER IN THE GYM HIS LATE FATHER FOUGHT IN,
EVEN TAKING HIS FATHER'S NAME?

RUMOR HAS IT THIS "JACK" MURDOCK
CLAIMS TO HAVE AMNESIA.

DOES MURDOCK
THINK HE'S FOUND HIS
IDENTITY IN HIS LATE
FATHER'S NAME AND
JOB?

YEARS
AGO, THE
ELDER
MURDOCK
WAS SET
UP TO
THROW A
FIGHT.

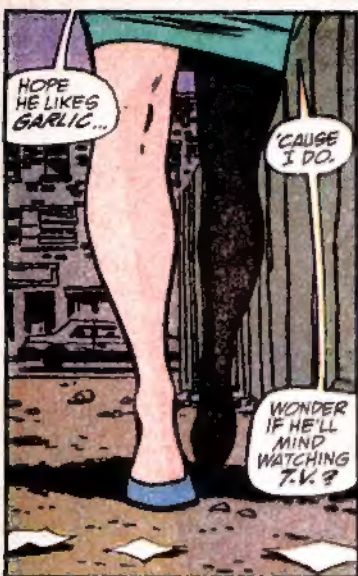
WHEN BATTLING JACK REFUSED AND
WON THE FIGHT ANYWAY, HE WAS
KILLED FOR HIS INDISCRETION.


WHAT IF I WERE TO SET UP
THE SON IN THE SAME WAY?
FORCE HIM TO TAKE A FALL?

IT MIGHT JUST
SEND AN AL-
READY UNBAL-
ANCED MIND
OVER THE
EDGE.



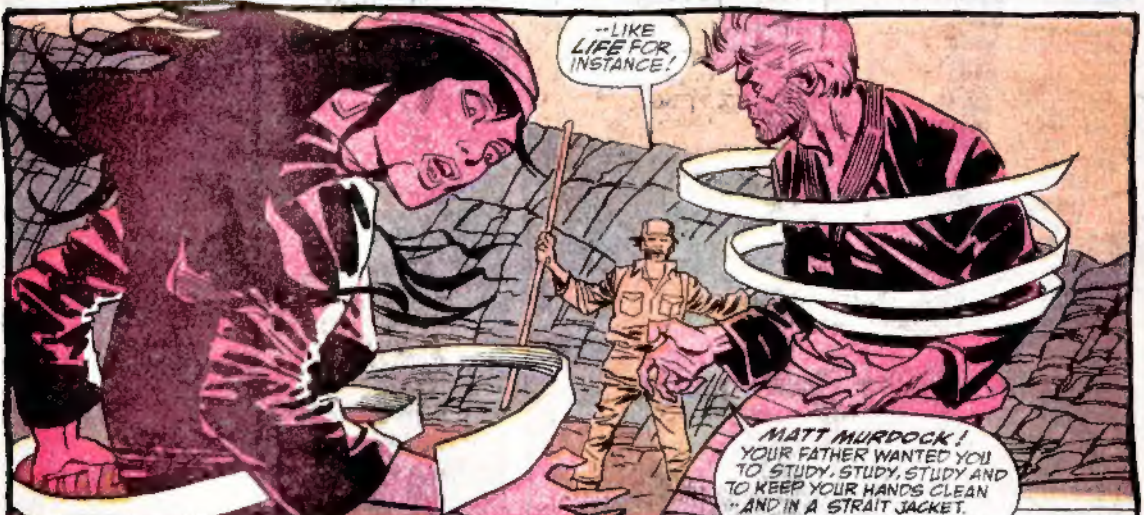




A panel showing three people's heads and shoulders as they look over a red, rocky wall. On the left is a person with dark hair. In the center is a blonde woman. On the right is another blonde woman. In the background, there are dark, jagged rock formations and some distant figures.


BOUND AND CRIPPLED, FOOLISH ONES--BY THE LEGACY OF YOUR PASTS.

ELEKTRA! YOUR FATHER WANTED TO INSULATE YOU LIKE A PRINCESS FROM ANYTHING DIRTY OR MESSY--

A panel showing two men in a rocky, desert-like landscape. The man on the left is wearing a dark, patterned robe and a turban. The man on the right is wearing a dark, patterned robe and a turban, and is holding a whip. In the background, there is a small figure of a person holding a staff.


--LIKE LIFE FOR INSTANCE!

MATT MURDOCK! YOUR FATHER WANTED YOU TO STUDY, STUDY, STUDY AND TO KEEP YOUR HANDS CLEAN --AND IN A STRAIT JACKET.

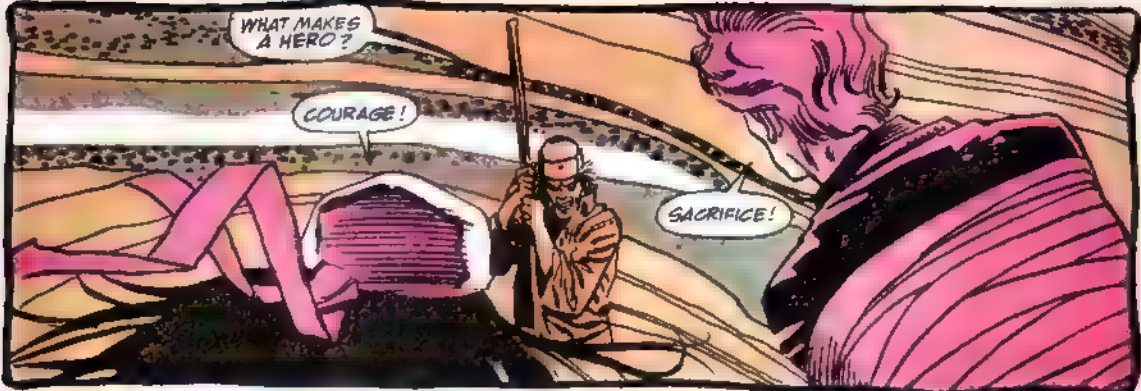
A close-up panel of a man's face. He has a large, prominent nose, a wide, toothy grin, and is looking directly at the viewer. He is wearing a turban.

YOUR PARENTS MEANT WELL, BUT THEY WERE JUST HUMANS, THEY WERE CHILDREN.

GET PAST THOSE OLD GUILTS AND PAINS.

A panel showing a man in a turban in the foreground, looking towards two people running in the background. The man in the foreground is wearing a turban and a dark robe. The two people running are a man and a woman, both wearing dark robes and turbans. They are running towards the right. The background is a rocky, desert-like landscape.

THERE IS NO LEGACY YOU MUST FULFILL BEYOND YOUR OWN.



WHAT MAKES
A HERO?

COURAGE!

SACRIFICE!



NO! NARCISSISM!

YOU TWO ARE SO
NARCISSISTIC,
YOU WANT TO BE
IMMORTAL--THAT'S
WHY YOU PRANCE
AROUND LIKE
HEROES!

YOUR
MOTIVES
STINK!



THAT'S NOT
TRUE!

SO WHAT?
WHAT'S WRONG
WITH WANTING
IMMORTALITY?
IT'S A GREAT
WAY TO ESCAPE
DEATH!



IDIOT!

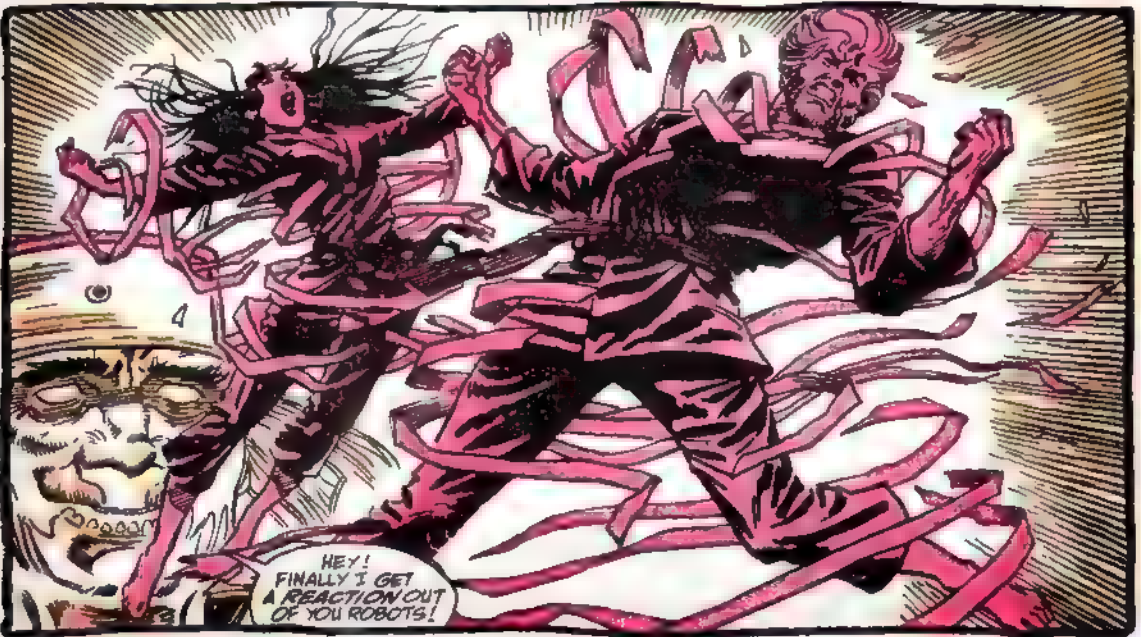
WHY FEAR
DEATH?
DEATH IS
NOTHING!

LIFE IS
WHAT YOU
SHOULD BE
AFRAID
OF!

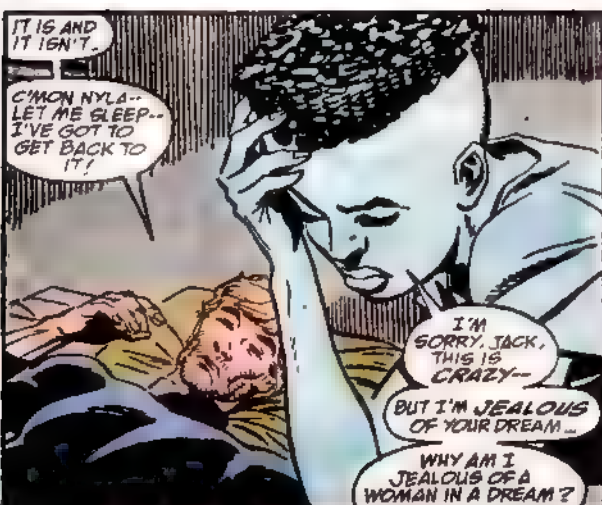
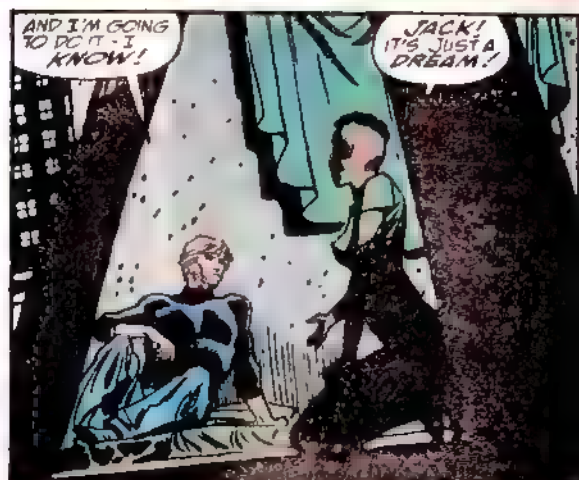
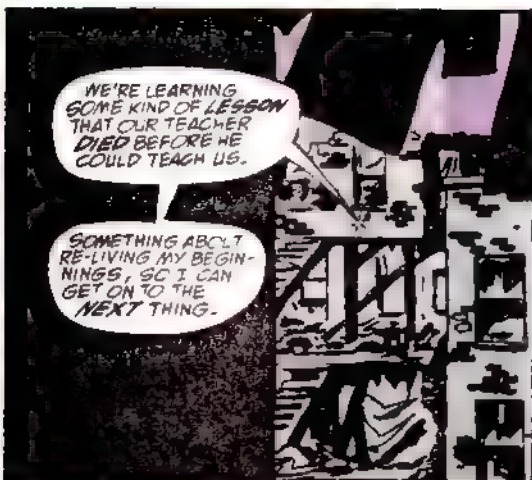


YOU TWO ARE AS
ROTTEN AND RUTHLESS
AS ANY VILLAIN YOU'VE
EVER FOUGHT!

YOU CAN'T DO
WHAT YOU DO
AND STAY CLEAN!



HEY!
FINALLY I GET
A REACTION OUT
OF YOU ROBOTS!





POGWELL'S GYM

NEVER - I NEVER FIXED A FIGHT AND NEVER WILL.

I'D RATHER BE DEAD.

NOW GET OUTTA MY GYM.

VERY WELL.



HEY-- AAGK!

I'M GLAD YOU UNDERSTAND ME.



FIX THE FIGHT OR DIE.

KWAAM

GURKL-
AKK!



SO YOU HAVE CHOSEN DEATH. HOW NOBLE.

AGHKK!



WHAT DID YOU SAY?

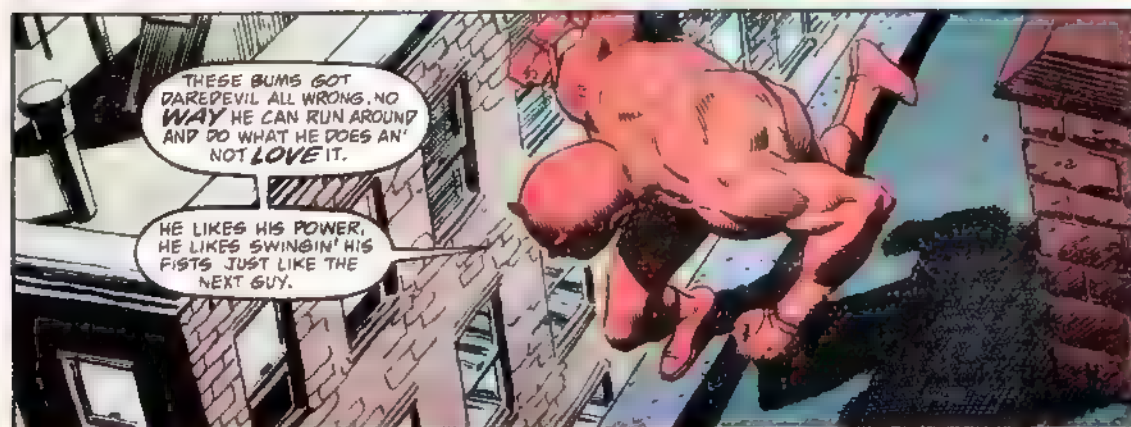
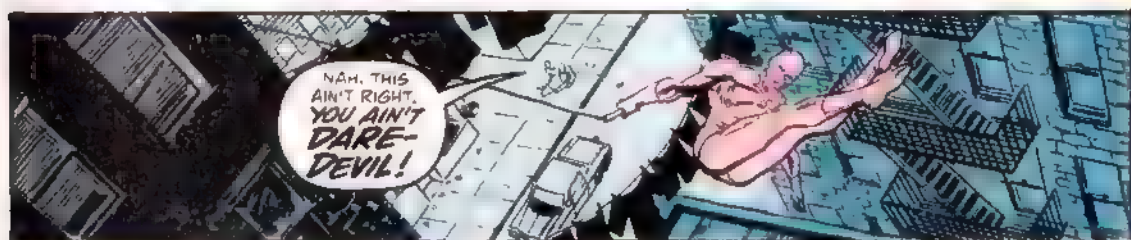
GK-GK-GK!

YOU'LL FIX THE FIGHT AFTER ALL?

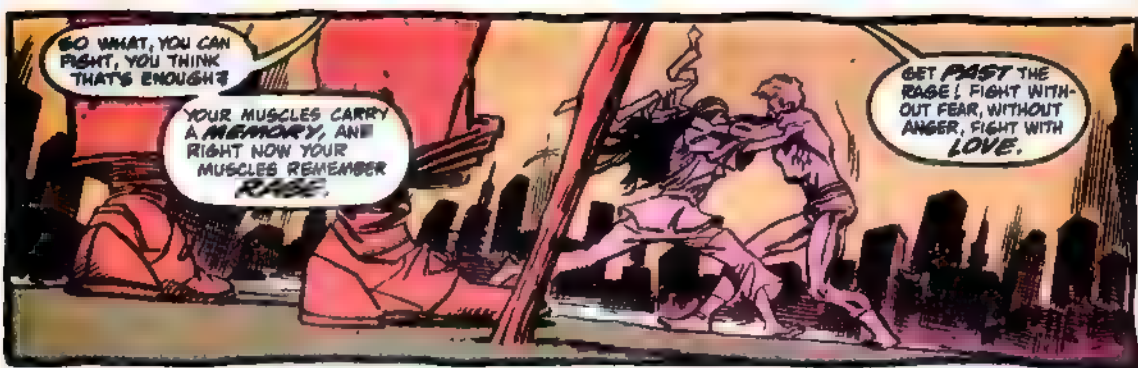


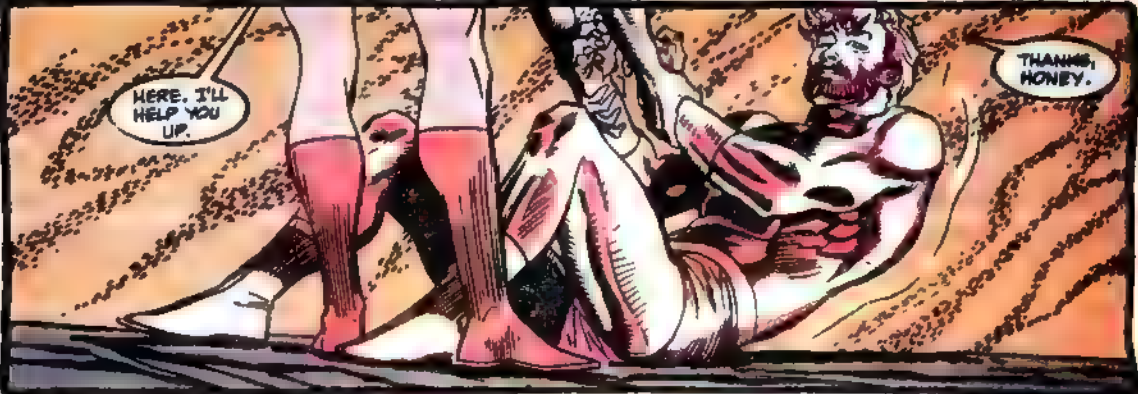
I THOUGHT SO. YOU ARE A VERY WISE MAN.

GASP!
UH
KAFF
KAFF!
UH...







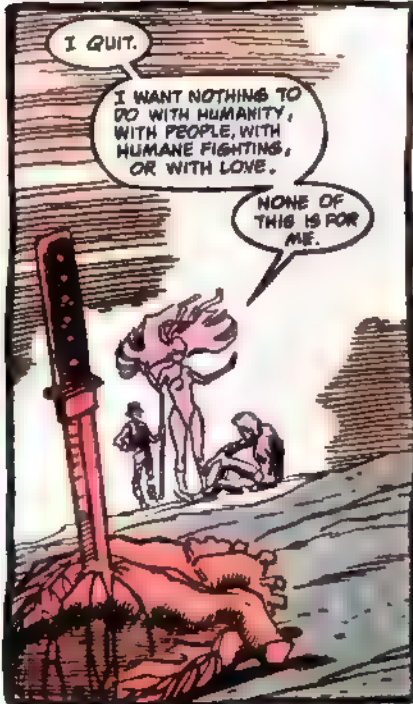


HERE, I'LL
HELP YOU
UP.

THANKS,
HONEY.



HEY



I QUIT.

I WANT NOTHING TO
DO WITH HUMANITY,
WITH PEOPLE, WITH
HUMANE FIGHTING,
OR WITH LOVE.

NONE OF
THIS IS FOR
ME.



TEACHER, OUR
TRAINING IS
OVER.



AND YOU,
MURDOCK?
IS THE TRAINING
OVER FOR YOU,
TOO?



MATTHEW MURDOCK.

THE STORY THAT COULD HAVE GIVEN ME, LOWLY REPORTER BEN URICH, THE PULITZER PRIZE.

THE GREAT UNPUBLISHED STORY.

THE STORY THAT WOULD HAVE DESTROYED NEW YORK'S MOST DEVOTED PROTECTOR.

SO WHAT? WE SEEM TO HAVE LOST OUR HERO ANYWAY.

OKAY, THINK. THE ANSWER IS RIGHT HERE.

A YOUNG BOY FLINGS HIMSELF IN FRONT OF A TRUCK, TO SAVE AN OLD MAN.

AND HE KEEPS IT ALL A SECRET.

HE BECOMES THE DAREDEVIL AFTER THE MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF HIS BOXER FATHER, AND FIGHTS CRIME.

HIS WHOLE LIFE BECOMES A STRING OF COMPLEX SECRETS, AND I'VE GOT TO FIGHT MY WHOLE DARN REPORTER'S INSTINCT, SO I DON'T REVEAL THEM ALL.

AND NOW, YEARS LATER, DAREDEVIL TURNS INTO A CRIMINAL ...

AND THE GREAT BOXER JACK MURDOCK REAPPEARS AS IF FROM THE GRAVE.

BUGLE SPORTS

REINCARNATION? JACK MURDOCK WINS BY KO AGAIN

HALF OF MATT MURDOCK IS BEATING UP THE PEOPLE HE LOVED AND PROTECTED, AND HALF OF HIM THINKS HE'S HIS DEAD FATHER.

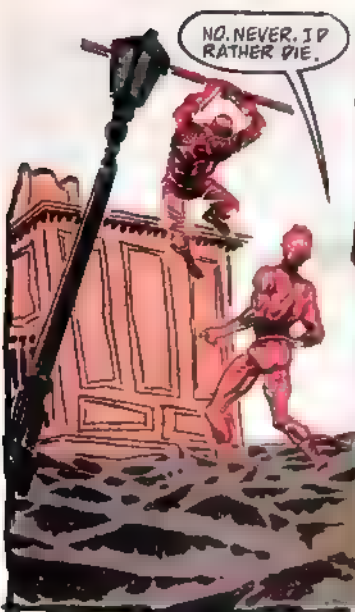
NOW IF I PUT MY BRILLIANT INVESTIGATIVE MIND TO IT, AND LOOK AT ALL THE FACTS BEFORE ME, I SHOULD HAVE THE ANSWER TO THIS MYSTERY.

THAT IS, IF I WERE BRILLIANT

ONLY THING I CAN THINK OF IS: THE INEVITABLE FINALLY HAPPENED.

MATT MURDOCK, DAREDEVIL, WHO-- EVER HE IS NOW-- HAS GONE NUTS.

AND IT ALL REMAINS WHAT IT ALWAYS WAS-- HIS SECRET.



AND ON THE
STREETS...

I'M DAREDEVIL!

DAREDEVIL.

DAREDEVIL.

DAREDEVIL..

WAK
WAK

WAK

YOU UNDERSTAND,
CITIZEN?

YOU GIVE
SOMEONE
POWER, THEY
TAKE IT!

WAP

YOU CALL
ME YOUR
PROTECTOR?

THEN YOU GIVE
UP YOUR RIGHT
TO PROTECT
YOURSELF!

WHAM

YOU WANT A
VIGILANTE TO
PROTECT YOUR
STREETS?

SOMEONE TOUGHER
THAN THE COPS?

YOU GOT
IT!

WAK

NOW I'VE
GOT THE
SUIT!

I'M
DAREDEVIL!

THE MAN
WITHOUT
FEAR!

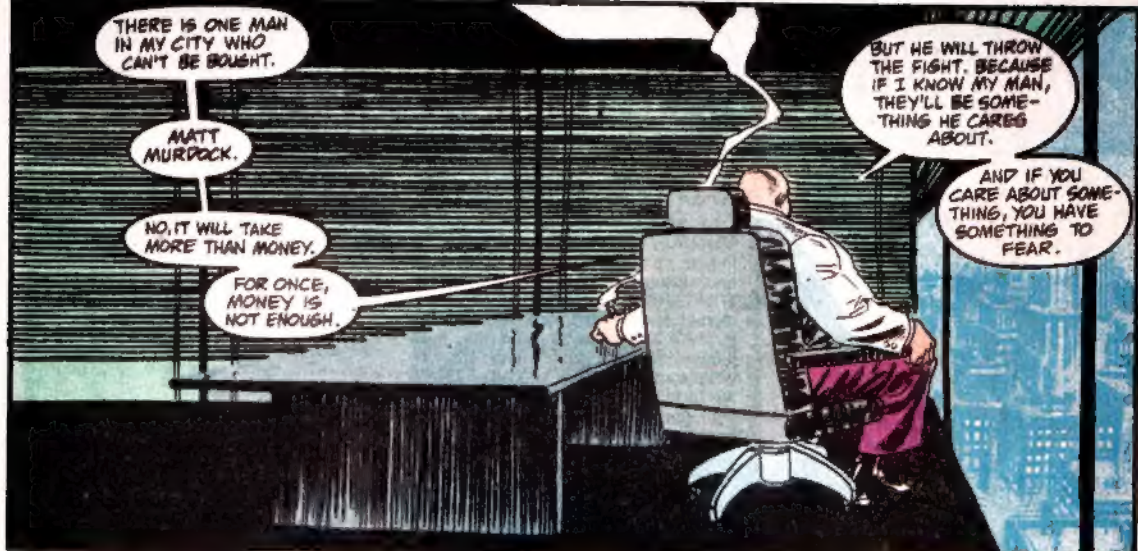
WAP
WAP

YOU WANT YOUR
HERO TO STAY IN
LINE? TO NEVER
GO HAYWIRE?

FORGET
IT!

YOU ASKED FOR
THIS, CITIZEN, WHEN
YOU CREATED THE
DAREDEVIL AND
HANDLED HIM ALL
YOUR POWER!

YOU WANT YOUR
HERO TO STAY IN
LINE? TO NEVER
GO HAYWIRE?



THERE IS ONE MAN
IN MY CITY WHO
CAN'T BE BOUGHT.

MATT
MURDOCK.

NO, IT WILL TAKE
MORE THAN MONEY.

FOR ONCE,
MONEY IS
NOT ENOUGH.

BUT HE WILL THROW
THE FIGHT. BECAUSE
IF I KNOW MY MAN,
THEY'LL BE SOME-
THING HE CARES
ABOUT.

AND IF YOU
CARE ABOUT SOME-
THING, YOU HAVE
SOMETHING TO
FEAR.



WHAT HAVE
YOU FOUND
OUT?

UH...THERE'S
A GIRL.

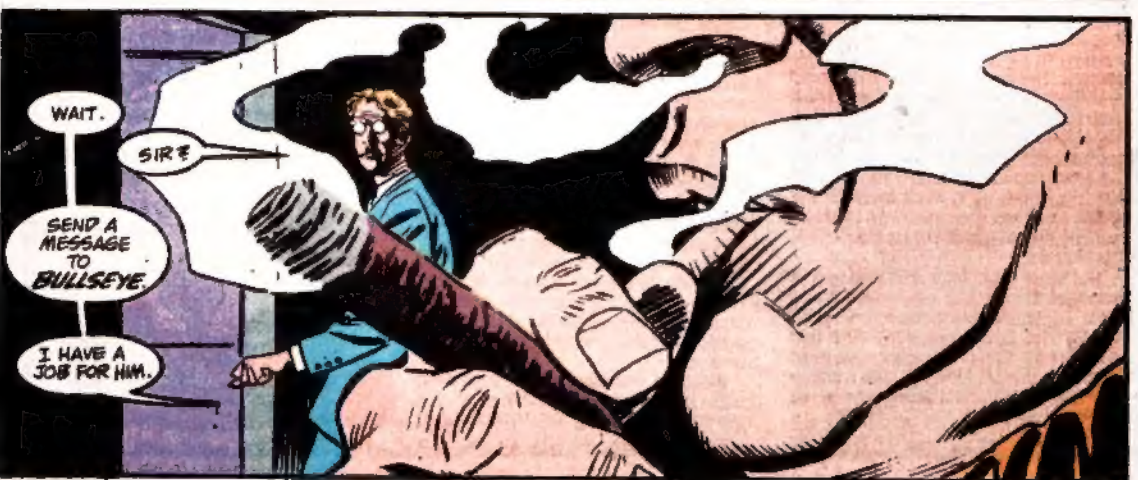


AH. A GIRL.
THERE'S ALWAYS
A GIRL.



BRING HER TO
ME, ALIVE.

YES,
MR.
FISK.



WAIT.

SIRE

SEND A
MESSAGE
TO
BULLSEYE.

I HAVE A
JOB FOR HIM.



WAKE UP,
JACK!

COME ON,
JACK! WAKE
UP!

JACK!

YOU GOTTA
GET TO THE
FIGHT!



UH. HELLO,
NYLA.

IT'S
TIME
TO GO?

YES!

OH, JACK, YOU WERE
SLEEPING FOR SO
LONG!

AND CRYING, LAUGHING AND
MOANING IN YOUR SLEEP.
I COULDN'T TAKE
IT ANYMORE!



MY DREAM!
I HAD SUCH
A DREAM.

I'M REBORN!

HUH?

CRIPES, JACK.
DON'T TELL ME YOU
FOUND GOD OR
SOMETHING.



HAH
HAH
HAH!

NO. NOT
EXACTLY.



LISTEN JACK. I GOTTA ASK YOU
SOMETHING. IT'S BEEN BUGGIN'
ME ALL DAY.

I KNOW YOU'RE HALF BLIND
AND CAN'T SEE COLOR AN' DETAIL
AN' STUFF...

WELL...WHAT
COLOR DO YOU
THINK I AM?

I DON'T KNOW.
ORANGE?
PINK? POLKA-
DOTTED?



I DON'T KNOW
AND I DON'T CARE

BUT YOU BETTER
COME SEE ME
FIGHT TONIGHT,
NYLA.

'CAUSE I'M WINNING
THIS ONE FOR YOU.

DEVIL'S ADVOCATE

RALPH MACCHIO: EDITOR—MICHAEL HEISLER: ASSISTANT EDITOR
C/O MARVEL COMICS—387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH—NEW YORK, NEW YORK—10016

ATTENTION CORRESPONDENTS: ALL LETTERS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR PUBLICATION MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS THOUGH WE WILL WITHHOLD THAT INFO BY REQUEST!

Before we dive headlong into this month's letters, there's a few things we should let you know, some of which we're happy about, the first of which were not so happy about:

Thing #1: Back in issue #282, we all but visited your homes and promised you personally that John Romita Jr. would be shortly returning to the penciling chores on D.E.D. At the time, we honestly thought so ourselves. However (you can probably guess where this is leading), we find ourselves having to reluctantly admit that JR Jr. will not be returning to DAREDEVIL at any time in the foreseeable future. Sort of.

Thing #2: We say "sort of" because although he will no longer be penciling the regular book, JR will be handling the penciling on an ultra-deluxe, bound-to-be-hardbound DAREDEVIL Graphic Novel! We can't say how soon you'll see it, though; at this point we don't even know how long it will be at least 100 pages! This volume will be of special interest to longtime D.E.D. fans, as it presents the definitive story of Hornhead's early years, and is written by none other than fabulous Frank Miller! Nuff said!

Thing #3: Not quite. Speaking of Frank Miller, we're overjoyed to announce that the long-awaited graphic novel *Elektra Lives Again* will at last see print and will be available a little over a month after you read these lines! Frank's knocked himself out on the story and the art, and it's got beautifully painted full color by Lynn Varley, to boot! We think you'll agree that it's been well worth the wait.

Thing #4: We can't complain too loudly about losing JR, anyway, because we've managed to snag Lee Weeks as our new regular penciler! Lee just happened to be visiting the office on the very day that Ralph and Mike were looking for a penciler for issue #284, and (except for a little help from Greg Capullo on issue #286), he's been here ever since. Lee won't be coming on permanently until issue #291, though, because...

Thing #5: Well, it's because, with four different pencilers over the past six months, this book is kind of beaten up, schedule-wise. So, while Lee gets a big jump on #291, issues #289 and #290 will be penciled by former CAPTAIN AMERICA artist Kieron Dwyer! Okay? Okay!

Thing #6: No Thing!

We now return you to your regularly scheduled letters page...

storylines. Now, I'll admit that I enjoy an occasional storyline dealing with the supernatural (such as the one concerning voodoo that first got me interested in DAREDEVIL), but if I wanted the supernatural each month, I'd be reading DOCTOR STRANGE, not the above mentioned ones. No please, get Hornhead back to Hell's Kitchen and keep him away from the nether-world, okay?

The only reason I was sorry to see the end of this storyline is because it marked the departure of John Romita Jr. Over the last thirty-two issues Mr. Romita has become the only (other than maybe Frank Miller) penciler for this series, as far as I'm concerned, and I anxiously await his return. Until next time...

Marion Fedrick
Rt One, Box 615
Waynesboro, MN 55967

Well, Marion, we're sorry that you didn't like the recent stories that Daredevil has been involved in, but we hope that you stick around to see what we have in store for old Hornhead next.

Dear Ralph,

So Daredevil's sojourn comes to an end. This has been a voyage of self-discovery, for Matt and his fellow travelers. Maybe, it's a bit like the Australians' (or should I say, Aborigines') "Walkabout." Except that being a super hero in a comic, he comes across the likes of Mephisto and the Silver Surfer. In comics, after all, heroes do journey through Hell. For Daredevil, though, the reality of the situation wasn't important. This was a spiritual journey. Tired of his life in Hell's Kitchen, he takes that description one step further, to the ultimate place of heat and fire. It looks like he's due back in New York now; it will seem like child's play in comparison. Whereas Daredevil may have rediscovered himself and given himself new hope and confidence, one area that Matt Murdock has not made any progress in over these past fifteen issues or so is in relationships. Karen, Foggy, Elektra, even Natasha are all far behind, but what will he have learned about coping with the aspect of his life? He has had the love of several good women and has managed to alienate them all. Ever since that historic final page of DAREDEVIL #52 (I think my collection isn't with me just now) when Karen pulls off his mask, the two of them have been destined to be together, but first one and then the other has rejected. I hope that maybe some stability and happiness in that area of his life is now due him, and that he can use his recently gained personal advances to his advantage in sorting out his personal emotions.

And hey, the book has looked great of late, for which all members of the visual team deserve credit, especially Al Williamson, one of the masters of his craft.

Malcolm Bourne
2 & 4 Hyc Road
Shuttleworth, Rambsbottom
Bury, Lancashire BL0 0HH
England

Dear Dudes of Marvel,

The ending of the Mephisto storyline in DAREDEVIL #282 brings to conclusion the best storyline in comics so far this year. What better

time for Daredevil to return to New York after regaining his "faith" by resisting Mephisto's temptations. Though Mephisto, Daredevil finally comes to terms with all his past failures and realizes that good will not always win but it's important not to give up. I can't wait to see Daredevil back in Hell's Kitchen where he belongs. One quick question—how long before we find out about the fate of Blackheart?

Eddie (illegible last name)
Yonkers, New York

Hey, Eddie, we're glad you liked the ending. As for the fate of Blackheart, well, that won't be answered for some time to come. After all, Daredevil is going to be pretty busy readjusting to being back on his home turf. But don't worry, Blackheart is sure to pop up sometime in the future. By the way, Eddie, what exactly do you enforce?

Dear Double D...

I thought #282 was a great way to end the Mephisto saga. Silver Surfer guest stars, Blackheart banished, Brandy dies. Plus Goggin and Karnik take "Pope" home. Next, Captain America and best of all Daredevil goes back to New York City. Let's see Foggy, Karen, Typhoid, Kingpin, and Spider-Man drop in soon. Ahn, let's see some new baddies too. With all the stuff going on in SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN and WEB OF SPIDER-MAN, it seems Daredevil should meet up with the new underworld bosses, Chamcheon and Hammerhead. Tombstone would be an ultimate guy for Daredevil to lock horns with (pun intended). One more thing—let's see Shogun and Number Nine return someday. Well till Daredevil redons his yellow suit from DAREDEVIL #1—Make Mine Marvel!

M. Prichard
(Address withheld upon request)

Dear Sirs,

I first started collecting DAREDEVIL four years ago with issue number 244 and thanks to Ann Nocenti's writing, it quickly became one of my favorites.

Unlike many of the other titles that I collect, DAREDEVIL has always made me sit down and think after I read it. Again, this is credited to Miss Nocenti's excellent scripting. However (you knew there was an "however" coming, didn't you?) I'm extremely glad to see the current storyline involving Mephisto come to an end. Although the story itself was, as always, beautifully scripted, and the art magnificent, I just haven't enjoyed the current storyline.

One of the main reasons I'm drawn to the "realistic" titles such as DAREDEVIL, SPIDER-MAN, PUNISHER, NOON KNIGHT, and CAPTAIN AMERICA is to avoid these kinds of

